

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Cunningham et al. EXAMINER: Melissa K. Ryckman  
SERIAL NO.: 10/618,990 GROUP: Art Unit 3773  
FILED: July 14, 2003 DATED: November 24, 2009  
FOR: **SURGICAL COBRA HEAD SUTURE NEEDLE**

Confirmation No.: 5967  
Mail Stop: Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed on August 26, 2009, Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.

---

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted on the date below with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, via electronic submission.

Date: **November 24, 2009**

  
Paul J. Natof